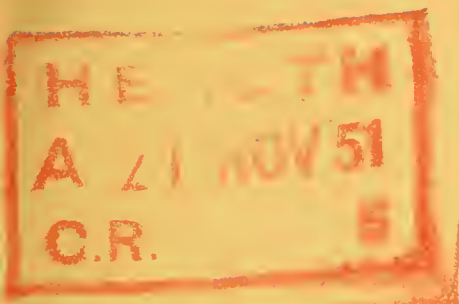




LEYLAND URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR ENDED

31st DECEMBER - 1950



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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
74 TOWNGATE,
LEYLAND, LANCs.

Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year ended 31st December, 1950.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council of the Urban District of Leyland.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Kelley, and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report on the health of Leyland during the year ended 31st December, 1950.

Births. The number of registered live births assignable to the area during the year under review was 239, being an increase of 15 over the previous year. The Birth Rate has risen from 15.4 in 1949 to 16.2 in 1950. The corresponding figures for England and Wales as a whole are 16.7 and 15.8.

Infant Deaths. It is pleasing to report that the number of infants who died before reaching one year of age was two in the year 1950, as compared with 9 in the previous year. The number of infant deaths is considered to be the best available index of progress in hygienic living within a community.

Maternal Deaths. Unfortunately there was during the year one death arising from diseases or accidents of pregnancy or childbirth. There had been no deaths from such causes for the previous three years.

Deaths from Tuberculosis. There were three deaths from tuberculosis in 1950, as compared with seven in 1949.

Total Deaths. The total number of deaths assignable to the district for the year 1950 from all causes amounts to 194 as compared to 159 in 1949. The main causes of the increase are deaths from vascular lesions of the nervous system, heart disease and other defined and ill-defined diseases.

The death rate has risen from 10.9 to 13.2 per 1000 population. The corresponding figures for England and Wales as a whole are 11.7 and 11.6.

Infectious Diseases. During the year 1950 the number of cases of infectious diseases was 296 as compared with 83 in the previous year. The increase is mainly accounted for by the fact that 195 cases of measles were notified as against 35 in the previous year.

Sanitary Circumstances. Particulars are submitted in the body of the report of the action taken during the year to maintain and improve the living conditions of the community. Much of the work of Sanitary Inspectors is tedious and they must often feel that they have little to show for their labours. There is no doubt, however, that the health and well-being of the community is largely dependant upon the vigilant and conscientious manner in which these Officers carry out their duties.

In concluding these introductory remarks I wish to express my gratitude to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for the kind consideration shown to me at all times. My thanks are also due to the Officers of the Council for their willing co-operation.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

September, 1951.

J. WALKER.

Physical Features of the Area.

The Urban District comprises an irregular shaped area, with its greater diameter north and west. The height in the west is approximately 55 feet above the datum line rising in the east to 250 feet. On the whole, the area is level, and rises and falls are of a gentle nature.

Geologically, the district lies on a plain of Triassic Rock, upon which are deposited a Lower Boulder Clay layer, a layer of Middle Drift Sand, and an Upper Boulder clay layer. In the southern part of the district, there is an outcrop of sand of considerable depth and approximately 400 yards in width. This outcrop dips steeply so that in the neighbourhood of Golden Hill it is some 80 feet below the surface. The three layers vary considerably in depth in different parts of the area.

Water is found in the Middle Drift-sand, and the presence of this probably accounted for the selection of this area by settlers in the distant past. The shallow wells in the sand layer became grossly contaminated, and at one time gave rise to an outbreak of Enteric Disease.

In the Midge Hall area there is a layer of peat some 12 feet in depth overlying the three layers of Glacial Drift.

Two small rivers, Lostock and Wymott run through the district on the western side. Both these rivers used to overflow their banks in times of heavy rain, but these are much improved following work by the County Land Drainage department.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area in Acres—3,798.

Population (Census 1931)—10,575.

Registrar General's estimate of Population (mid 1950)—14,740.

Number of inhabited houses (census 1931)—2,990.

Number of inhabited houses (Ratebook, 1950)—4,508.

Rateable Value—£89,757.

Sum represented by a penny rate—£354.

Social Conditions and Amenities of the District.

The district is mainly industrial, especially in the centre, but there are areas at the periphery devoted to farming pursuits. Industry is represented by a Motor Works, Rubber works, Cotton weaving, Bleach works, Munition works, and Paint works.

There was practically no unemployment in the area in 1950, nor could any mortality or morbidity be attributed to any form of employment in the district.

No review of the social conditions of an area would be complete without some account of the cultural background in which its inhabitants live. In Leyland, there are ten churches covering almost

every aspect of religion, and attached to these churches there are three church halls where Sunday schools are held, and lectures, debates, dramatic art, dancing and music are enjoyed. There are two Dramatic Societies in the area which give plays and entertainment for the public as well as encouraging the art amongst young people.

There are two halls where public dances can be held. There is now only one cinema in the area, the other being burned down in March, 1949. In spite of many attempts to obtain a licence to rebuild, this has not been forthcoming.

In the realm of sport, the district is catered for by grounds which are regularly used by six football or cricket teams, and there are three playing fields where the less skilled may enjoy similar sports. There is also a good nine hole golf course.

For those advancing in years, there are seven greens where the ancient sport of bowling may be played.

Vital Statistics.

Births.

<i>Live Births—</i>						M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	114	120	234
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	5
Total						116	123	239
Birth Rate per 1,000 of population						16.2		
<i>Still Births—</i>								
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	3	4	7
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Total						4	4	8
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births						32		

Infantile Mortality.

Death rate of infants under 1 year per 1,000 births	...	...	8
Death rate legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate births	...	...	9
Death rate illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate births	...	...	Nil.

Deaths.

Death rate per 1,000 population from all causes	...	...	13.2
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	28
Deaths from Measles	...	...	Nil.
Deaths from Whooping Cough	...	...	Nil.
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	Nil.

Comparative Table of Vital Statistics.

	Per 1,000 of Population				Maternal Mortality Rate			
	Live Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Death Rate from Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Death Rate from Cancer	Per 1,000 Live Births	Per 1,000 Live and Still Births	Total	Infantile Mortality Rate
Mean of 5 years 1945-1949 ..	18.4	10.5	0.25	1.43	0.76	0.75		43
1949	15.4	10.9	0.48	1.71	Nil	Nil		40
1950	*16.2	†13.2	0.14	—	4.18	4.05		8
County of Lancaster	15.06	12.84	0.28	1.97	1.01	0.98		33
England and Wales	15.8	11.6	0.32	1.95	N.A.	0.86		30
Increase or decrease in 1950 on								
5 years average 1945-1949	-2.2	+2.7	-0.11	—	+3.42	+3.30		-35
Previous Year.. .. .	+0.8	+2.3	-0.34	—	+4.18	+4.05		-32

(N.A., not available).

†1950 adjusted death rate (comparability factor, 1.4)=15.0 per 1,000

*1950 adjusted birth rate (comparability factor, 0.7)=15.7 per 1,000.

There were 3 deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis in 1950 whilst there were 7 the previous year. The death rate from this disease is 0.14. There were two deaths of infants under 1 year as compared with 9 in the previous year. This gives an Infantile Mortality Rate of 8 compared with 30 for England and Wales as a whole.

There were 28 deaths from cancer during 1950 as compared with 25 in the previous year. The death rate is not shown as particulars of cancer deaths are not comparable with previous years owing to a grouping of diseases which were not previously included in the number of deaths from cancer.

Analysis of Causes of Death.

	M.	F.	Total
Tuberculosis (all forms)	1	2	3
Syphilitic Disease	—	1	1
Cancer (all sites)	12	16	28
Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	1	1
Leukaemia	1	—	1
Diabetes	1	2	3
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	12	19	31
Heart Diseases	28	28	56
Diseases of Circulatory System	4	7	11
Influenza	3	2	5

	M.	F.	Total
Pneumonia	2	2	4
Bronchitis	10	5	15
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	—	1	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	1	1
Nephritis	2	2	4
Hyperplasia of prostate	4	—	4
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	1	1
Congenital Malformations	—	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	7	13	20
Accidental causes	1	1	2
Suicide	—	1	1
	88	106	194

Once again diseases of the heart produced the largest number of deaths in both males and females. Vascular lesions of the Nervous System being the second most prevalent cause.

Bronchitis and Pneumonia caused respectively 15 and 4 deaths.

Intra cranial vascular lesions produced 31 deaths. These deaths include all forms of ‘strokes’ and provide some indication of the increasing age of the population and the greater strains of modern life. There were 5 deaths attributable to influenza.

There were 2 deaths reported as a result of accidents.

The causes of death of the two infants who died under the age of 1 year are given below:—

Prematurity	1
Cerebral Haemorrhage	1

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES OF THE AREA.

Medical Officer of Health:—

J. Walker, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., L.D.S., D.P.D.

Other Public Appointments:—

M.O.H. Longridge U.D.C.

M.O.H. Preston R.D.C.

Divisional Medical Officer—Health Division No. 4.

The previous Medical Officer of Health, Dr. G. G. Wray, retired on the 28th February, 1950.

Chief Sanitary Inspector:—H. Cheetham, Cert.R.San.I., Meat Certificate, R.S.I., Building Certificate (Higher National) (Distinction), Associate Member of the Institute of Public Cleansing.

Also Cleansing Superintendent.

Additional Sanitary Inspector:—G. Walsh, Cert.R. San.I. and S.I.E.J.B., Meat Certificate, R.S.I.

Certifying Factory Surgeon:—Dr. C. M. Willmott.

Laboratory Services.

The Laboratory of Wigan Royal Infirmary was used to examine specimens for the diagnosis of cases of Infectious Diseases, and for pathological specimens for ordinary diseases.

The following examinations were made:—

5 swabs for Diphtheria.

The Laboratory of Preston Royal Infirmary was used for the bacteriological examination of milks, for tests for Tubercle Bacillus in milks, and for tests for ice cream.

Tuberculosis.

There were 6 primary notifications (1 pulmonary and 5 non-pulmonary) during the year 1950 and 3 deaths during the same period. Eight persons were removed from the register, two as “recovered,” 2 as left the district, 1 as “diagnosis not confirmed,” and 3 deaths as above-mentioned. The table below gives age and sex distribution of the new cases and deaths.

Tuberculosis. New Cases and Mortality in 1950.

Age Periods Years	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..
5	..	..	2	..	..	..	..	..
10	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
15	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..
20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
25	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
35	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
45	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..
55	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
65	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
75 upwards..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	1	—	4	1	—	2	1	—
	1		5		2		1	

Hospital Accommodation.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES were admitted to the Joint Hospital at Heath Charnock and Deepdale Isolation Hospital. The number of cases admitted to these hospitals in 1950 was 35.

SMALLPOX CASES—there were none—would be admitted to the Blackburn Smallpox Hospital at Feniscowles.

GENERAL DISEASE. Five hospitals were available for patients in this district:—

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| (1) Preston Royal Infirmary. | } | These now are units of the
Preston Group of Hospitals. |
| (2) Chorley Hospital | | |
| (3) Sharoe Green Municipal Hospital, Preston. | | |
| (4) Eaves Lane Hospital, Chorley. | | |
| (5) St. Joseph's Hospital, Mount Street, Preston.
(for private patients). | | |

Prevalence and Control of Infectious Disease.

The number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified in 1950 was 296 as compared with 83 in 1949. This increase was largely accounted for by a rise in the incidence of measles from 35 to 195. The number of cases of Scarlet Fever was 40 as against 20 in the previous year. The fact that Diphtheria has again been absent from the District this year should be noticed. There were no cases of poliomyelitis (infantile paralysis). Whooping Cough increased from 24 to 58 cases.

Cases of Infectious Diseases requiring treatment or isolation were admitted to the Chorley and District Hospital, Heath Charnock, or Deepdale Isolation Hospital, Preston. It was not necessary to close any of the schools on account of Infectious Disease during 1950.

The Table below gives the analysis of cases:—

Notifiable Disease	Total Cases Notified										Total Deaths	Hospital	
	Total cases all Ages	Under 1	1—2	3—4	5—9	10—14	15—24	25—35	35—45	45—65	65 & over	Total cases removed to Hospital	Deaths in Hospital of persons be- longing to the district
Scarlet Fever	40	..	6	9	21	3	1	..	..	..	..	34	..
Measles	195	3	45	60	86	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough	58	5	18	16	17	..	2	..	..	..	..	1	..
Erysipelas	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..
Pneumonia	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	296	8	69	86	124	4	3	..	2	..	..	35	..

The Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk.

Since the coming into force of the Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944, no inspections were made on the dairy farms concerning milk production. The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries is now responsible for these duties.

Careful attention was however paid to the quality and the safety of the milk retailed within the district as well as the methods of distribution. All vehicles in which milk was delivered were inspected regularly.

More and more pasteurised milk is being sold in the district and tests were made to find out if the milk was being sufficiently heat treated and under proper conditions. Of 30 samples taken during the course of delivery all were satisfactory.

Forty-one samples of other than heat-treated milk were examined, thirty-two passed the prescribed tests and nine failed. Details of the unsatisfactory samples were reported to the County Milk Production Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture for his attention.

Forty-two biological tests were made for the presence of the tubercle bacillus. In forty-one cases tuberculosis was "not found" but in one it was reported positive. As part of the milk was being retailed raw in the district a notice was served under the provisions of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, requiring all the milk to be heat treated until further notice. The Divisional Veterinary Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture was informed and one cow was slaughtered under the provisions of the Tuberculosis Order, 1938. A final clearance certificate was received about six weeks later and the notice was withdrawn.

The County Sampling Officer assisted by the Council's Sanitary Inspectors took 57 formal samples of milk in the district to be examined for adulteration and fat deficiency. Of these 52 were genuine and the other 5 were found to be as follows:—

<i>Sample</i>	<i>Result of Analysis</i>	<i>Action Taken.</i>
1 Formal Milk	Deficient of 3.3 per cent. fat.	Vendor notified.
1 Formal Milk	Deficient of 13.3 per cent. fat.	Vendor notified and further samples obtained.
1 Formal Milk	Deficient of 1.6 per cent. fat.	Vendor notified.
1 Formal Milk	Deficient of 3.3 per cent. fat.	Same Vendor— farm visited.
1 Formal Milk	Deficient of 6.6. per cent. fat.	

Meat and other Foods.

Inspections were made regularly of butchers' shops, shops and stalls of food retailers.

Approximately $5\frac{1}{4}$ cwts. of meat and other foods were voluntarily surrendered as unfit for human consumption. Further details of these will be found in Mr. Cheetham's Report appended.

The draft Byelaws published in 1949 relating to the handling, wrapping and delivery of food and the sale of food in the open air, having been duly considered and adopted by the Council, came into operation on the 24th July, 1950. A summary of these is appended below.

Food Byelaws.

- (1) All persons shall observe cleanliness in regard to themselves and their clothing.
- (2) No person suffering from or carrying any disease shall handle food so as to give rise to risk of spread of the disease.
- (3) All persons handling and delivering food shall take all reasonable steps to protect the food from dust, dirt, etc., animals, rodents, flies and insects.
- (4) All surfaces with which food comes into contact to be kept clean.
- (5) Suitable receptacles to be provided for the reception of necessary refuse to be removed once per day and have close fitting lids.
- (6) No wrappings to be used which are liable to contaminate food.
- (7) Returnable containers to be despatched clean.
- (8) All refuse to be at such a distance from food as to prevent risk of contamination.
- (9) Adequate lighting to be provided to all food premises.
- (10) All surfaces coming into contact with food to be in such condition as to prevent undue absorption of the food.
- (11) A notice to be displayed near every sanitary convenience provided for the use of employees requesting that hands should be washed after using the convenience.
- (12) In addition to the above requirements any person trading from a stall in the open air shall have his name and address legibly and conspicuously displayed.
- (13) Penalties are provided for non compliance with the above.

Ice Cream.

Twenty-nine samples of ice cream were taken and submitted to bacteriological tests. As a result of the tests these samples were placed in the following grades:—

Grade I ...	...	...	...	...	...	8	} Satisfactory
Grade II ...	...	...	...	...	...	10	
Grade III ...	...	...	...	...	...	6	} Unsatisfactory.
Grade IV ...	...	...	...	...	...	5	

Every producer and retailer in the district had been issued with the Ice Cream Regulations and every endeavour was made by visits, advice, and admonition to encourage the production of a clean and satisfactory product. Where the product was made outside the district and failed the test the results were forwarded to the appropriate Public Health Dept.

It was not necessary to take legal proceedings in the district in 1950.

Tuberculosis Order 1938.

As mentioned previously, one cow was slaughtered under this order in the period under review.

Milk in School Scheme.

All the milk used in the schools was heat treated (Pasteurised). The County Sampling Officer took samples of the milk used at each school and these samples were tested bacteriologically for cleanliness and also for the presence of the Tubercle Bacillus. All were satisfactory and free of Tuberculosis.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938—1950.

In addition to the milk samples referred to the County Sampling Officer (Mr. Smithson and later Mr. Kewley) took the following 49 samples of other foods.

2 Beef Sausage	3 Butter
1 Mustard Compound	2 Cakes
1 Pepper White	2 Cornflour
1 Oatmeal	2 Semolina
2 Cooking fat	2 Bicarbonate of Soda
1 Coffee	1 Chocolate
6 Margarine	1 Treacle Toffee
1 Meat Canned Veal Loaf	1 Gravy Browning
1 Bacon	2 Fruit, canned
1 Ham	3 Vegetable, canned
1 Coffee & Chicory Essence (w/sugar)	2 Golden Raising Powder
1 Canned Meat (Minced Beef Loaf w/cereals)	2 Dripping
1 Lard	2 Mincemeat, canned
1 Pork Sausage	1 Mincemeat
	2 Camphorated Oil

All the samples were reported by the County Analyst to be genuine with the exception of the following:—

<i>Sample.</i>	<i>Result of Analysis</i>	<i>Action Taken</i>
1 Meat Canned Veal Loaf	Contained 3.5% starch without declaration. Labelling of Food Order Offence.	Ministry of Food communicated with

Food Poisoning.

There were no “*notified*” cases of food poisoning from Medical Practitioners during the year but the following is an account of an alleged outbreak which occurred at one of the Industrial Canteens in the district.

On Thursday, the 16th March, 1950, the Public Health Department received a letter from a Canteen Manager stating that there had been approximately 50 cases of diarrhoea following the luncheon served on Monday, the 13th March, 1950. Investigations were commenced at once.

EXTENT OF OUTBREAK.

The persons affected had partaken of lunch on Monday, 13th March, at the Works Canteen. The total number of lunches served was 700 and approximately 50 cases of diarrhoea had come to the notice of the management, mainly from information provided by the "Ambulance Room."

The Department did not receive, in connection with this outbreak, any notification of food poisoning from the Medical Practitioners in the district as would be required by Section 17 (1) of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, nor did any other neighbouring Authority make any enquiries as a result of a notification. The men who had the meal would be drawn from a wide area, including the Preston, Wigan, Blackburn, Blackpool and Chorley districts.

There were no more cases from subsequent meals served in the Canteen.

CLINICAL FEATURES OF ILLNESS.

In general the first symptoms appeared between 8-0 p.m. and 9-0 p.m. on Monday. These were acute abdominal pains with diarrhoea which continued during the night but diminishing in intensity. Some men came in to work on Tuesday morning and as far as could be ascertained all the cases had cleared up by Wednesday, the 15th March. There was no vomiting.

EVIDENCE IMPLICATING PARTICULAR FOOD.

The lunch in question consisted of roast lamb, marrowfat peas, boiled and roasted potatoes and trifle. The roast lamb had been cooked on Friday, the 10th March, boned out, pressed and placed into refrigerators. On Monday some of this lamb was warmed up on the hot plates and some was served cold. Enquiries from some of the men affected showed they had all had the warmed up meat. The trifle did not appear to be implicated as this sweet was also served to the Staff Canteen along with *freshly roasted* leg of lamb and there were no cases.

The affected persons had eaten their lunch between 11-30 a.m. and 12-15 p.m.

IDENTIFICATION OF AGENT CONTAMINATING OR INFECTING FOOD.

Owing to the long delay between the onset of symptoms and notification it was not possible to obtain any food scraps from the meal, and for the same reason the Group Pathologist thought it was unnecessary to examine the stools of the recovered persons.

One normal stool from a recovered case was however examined but no pathogens were isolated.

From the information available and from the report of the Group Pathologist, the roast lamb would appear to be the suspected food and staphylococci the causal organisms.

Quite a lot of men from the works were convinced the cause of the outbreak was the water supply. A sample of the water was analysed and found to have a high degree of bacteriological purity.

SOURCE AND MEANS OF CONTAMINATION OF FOOD BY CHEMICAL OR BACTERIAL AGENT SUSPECTED.

(a) General cleanliness, layout and supervision of the Canteen was good but the practice of cooking meat on Friday for Monday's lunch was undesirable, particularly as in this case the meat was handled a good deal by boning out and pressing whilst still warm.

(b) Food handlers showed no signs of septic condition of hands and there was apparently a high standard of personal cleanliness among the staff.

(c) Enquiries revealed that three of the Canteen workers were affected with diarrhoea *before* and on the day of the outbreak. This had cleared up when enquiries were made but samples of their stools were examined at the Group Laboratory. No pathogens were isolated.

(d) There was no evidence of rodent infestation.

A further complaint was made about the dinner on Thursday night, the 16th March, from the night shift, regarding the taste of the roast lamb. Samples of this meat were taken to the Group Pathologist for examination on Friday morning but no pathogens were isolated. This meat had been served freshly cooked. There were, however, no cases of food poisoning arising from its consumption and it would appear that this complaint was a "psychological" one.

The following recommendations were made to the Canteen Management.

- (1) Repeated insistence upon all members of the Canteen staff that personal hygiene must be of a high standard.
- (2) Adequate and suitable notices should be displayed in the staff conveniences informing them of the necessity to wash their hands after using the W.C.
- (3) The management should ensure that clean towels, soap and hot water were always available for this purpose.
- (4) The practice of cooking and boning out meat on Friday for the following Monday's meal was undesirable, particularly when this meat was to be warmed up.
- (5) Seriously consider the advisability of excluding from work all food handlers who were suffering from septic sores, boils, etc., or who have diarrhoea.

Smoke Abatement.

The matter of smoke abatement is one which calls for very serious consideration and energetic measures to achieve improvement. The problem is one which concerns Leyland in view of the many industrial undertakings in the district.

Atmospheric pollution by smoke has a very detrimental effect on the health of the community and does much damage to buildings. Much of the smoke and grit so common in industrial areas is not only unnecessary and preventable but also wasteful.

In an effort to secure further control a Bye-law made in pursuance of Section 104 (1) of the Public Health Act 1936 was made by the Council and confirmed by the Minister of Health. This Bye-law which came into force on the 1st November, 1949 limits the emission of black smoke from a chimney of any building other than a private dwelling house to not more than two minutes in a period of thirty minutes.

Water Supply.

An account of the work of the water undertaking during the year will be found in Mr. Howe's report which is appended. The water is obtained from deep wells in the district of Clayton-le-Woods. This water is hard and to produce a water of softer qualities it is mixed with a supply of Thirlmere Water obtained from Manchester Corporation. The resultant mixture of these two supplies produces a water suitable for domestic as well as industrial use.

There were 8 houses not supplied from Leyland water mains, but five of these received a supply from Preston Rural District Council's mains. The other three were supplied by wells of the shallow variety. Samples of this well water have been examined.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The area is well sewered, except on the outskirts. The Midge Hall, Longmeanygate, Dunkirk Lane West, portion of South Leyland Lane, Back Lane, Wigan Road, and Heald House Road sections are not yet sewered. These areas are less densely populated than the other parts of the district.

The main sewers convey their contents by gravity to the Sewerage Works which are situated on the West bank of the River Lostock at the Ulnes Walton boundary. The system of sewage disposal consists of a mechanical screen with a gravity flow to horizontal sedimentation tanks, and thence pumped to rotary mechanical arms operating over coke breeze aeration beds. Humus tanks are then used and the final effluent discharges into the River Lostock.

This plant is of comparatively recent design, is efficient, sufficient for the population, and produces a satisfactory effluent. It deals with some 750,000 gallons of sewerage daily.

Rodent Control.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

This Act which came into force on the 31st March, 1950, repeals the old Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919. The new Act greatly strengthens the power of local authorities and emphasises that the primary obligation on the local authority is to ensure that its area is kept free from rats and mice. Increased powers are given to specify the treatment necessary and in certain cases to enter upon the property and carry out the work.

All types of property are covered and a local authority must ensure by regular surveys that the prevalence of rats and mice is kept to a minimum and must not wait for and rely solely on complaints before taking action.

Regulations under the Act were also made during the year entitled The Prevention of Damage by Pests (Threshing and Dismantling of Ricks) Regulations, 1950. In them specified steps are to be taken by owners and threshing contractors to ensure as far as is practicable the destruction of rats and mice escaping from ricks during threshing operations.

Closet Accommodation.

A table analysing the position for Dwelling Houses has been prepared by Mr. Cheetham and is given below.

	1920	1930	1940	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
No. of privy closets	809	291	209	208	208	208	208	70	60
No. of pail closets	488	374	157	150	134	125	123	170	170
No. of waste water closets	11	11	11	11	11	11	10	10	10
No. of houses with fresh water closets	802	2128	3506	3701	3765	3885	4073	4223	4285
No. of houses with dry ash pits	355	312	95	88	88	88	88	Nil	Nil
No. of premises with portable ash bins	720	2374	4194	4199	4231	4315	4411	4656	4718

Public Cleansing.

In Mr. Cheetham's Report, which is appended, will be found the details of this service.

Sanitary Inspections.

The number of inspections for nuisances and for defects during the year was 485 and 328. defects were found. 287 of these were abated, 166 informal notices were served and 12 Statutory. There were no legal proceedings. Fuller details of these inspections will be found in Mr. Cheetham's Report.

Private Streets and Back Passages.

Work was started on the School Lane group of streets.

Schools.

There are eight schools in the district, most of these are modern, and three of them are old and inconvenient for scholastic purposes. Ventilation and lighting in the new schools are adequate, but in the three old schools, not so satisfactory.

The accommodation available is used to its full capacity, the Playgrounds are sufficient in the newer schools, but restricted in the older ones.

Building operations for the erection of a new Infants School on the Broadfield Estate were carried on throughout the year.

Playing Fields.

There are three playing fields available in the district. These are insufficient to cover all purposes, and the provision of one for each ward of the district would be a desirable objective. Plans are envisaged to increase these facilities in the future.

Housing and Housing Conditions.

A Demolition Notice was served in respect of the following dwelling-house.
231a, Fox Lane.

On the Council's Broadfield Estate, fifty houses were completed and occupied. At the end of the year a total of 284 houses were occupied on this estate.

Nine houses were built and occupied by private persons.

Factories, Workshops and Bakehouses.

General supervision was exercised over the sanitary conveniences and the hygiene of the various mills and factories.

The bakehouses were inspected regularly. They were satisfactory.

The canteens and food kitchens were visited and inspected during the year. Their condition was quite satisfactory.

A survey was made during the year of the sanitary conveniences and general hygiene of the factories and workshops in the area.

New Legislation.

- (a) The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.
- (b) The Prevention of Damage by Pests (Threshing and Dismantling of Ricks) Regulations, 1950.
- (c) Byelaws relating to the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air. (Made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938).
Summaries of the above are included in the body of the Report.
- (d) The Shops Act, 1950.

This is mainly a consolidation Act and does not materially affect the provisions of the previous Shops Acts.

Reports Appended.

- (1) Report by the Chief Sanitary Inspector.
- (2) Water Report by Mr. Howe—Water Engineer.

The Sanitary Inspector's Report

for the Year, 1950.

To the Chairman and Members of the Leyland Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Kelley and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting the following report on the Sanitary work of the Health Department for the year 1950.

The following is a summary of the Sanitary Inspection work carried out during the year:—

Dwelling-houses.

	<i>Inspections.</i>	<i>Re-inspections.</i>
Inspected on Complaint	332	129
Inspected under Housing Acts	32	24
Routine Inspections	50	—
Infectious Diseases	35	12
Drains	180	28
Drains Tested	30	10

Factory and Workshop.

Inspections	34	10
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Unsound Food.

Premises Inspected	68	24
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Rodent Control.

Premises Inspected	98	130
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Dairies and Milkshops.

Premises Inspected	10	—
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Public Cleansing.

Premises Inspected	362	—
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Sanitary Improvements Effected.

	<i>Housing.</i>
Defective Eaves Gutters	4
Defective Slating on Roof	8
Defective Flashing to Chimney Stack	1
Defective Floors	6
Defective Cooking Range	2
No Damp Proof Course Provided	3
Broken Chimney Pot	1
Sash Cords to Window Broken	5

Public Health.

Penetrating dampness to dwelling	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Perished wall plaster	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Defective drain	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective W.C. cistern	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Defective brickwork to W.C. structure	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Defective downspout	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Defective woodwork to window frames	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Defective waste pipe	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Choked yard drains	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Dilapidated Pails to Pail Closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14

Notices Served in 1950.

Under Public Health and Housing Acts:—

Preliminary	...	...	...	...	166	Statutory	...	...	...	...	12
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Food.

The undermentioned foods were inspected and found unfit for human consumption:—

Vegetables (Tinned)	...	...	...	...	...	59 lbs. (64 Tins)
Meat (Fresh)	...	...	...	...	...	51 lbs.
Meat (Tinned)	...	...	...	...	...	30 lbs. (11 Tins)
Fish (Raw)	...	...	...	...	...	14 lbs.
Fruit (Fresh)	...	...	...	...	...	11 lbs.
Fruit (Tinned)	...	...	...	...	...	196 lbs.
Evaporated Milk	...	...	...	...	...	97 Tins (194 pt. equivalent)
Jam	...	...	...	...	...	5 lbs. (5 Jars)
Soup (Tinned)	...	...	...	...	...	3 lbs. (3 Tins)
National Flour	...	...	...	...	...	140 lbs.
Sweets	...	...	...	...	...	5 lbs.

House Refuse.**Collection, Disposal and Salvage Work.**

The weekly collection of all household refuse and salvage from shops was maintained throughout the year.

The vehicles employed on this work were:—

Lewin 8/16 Cubic Yard Dustless loader on an Austin Chassis.

Morris Commercial Two Ton.

Fordson side loading, 10 cu. yd.

Municipal Owned Dustbins.

The Municipal Owned Dustbin Scheme, brought into operation on the 1st April, 1949, has worked well. There is a general raising of the standards of storage within the District. The estimated number of 500 replacements a year is proving to be just sufficient.

Kitchen Waste.

By the end of the year 1,500 houses had been supplied with an individual covered kitchen waste container. It is hoped to build up a scheme for 3,000 houses to be supplied with the individual container. A supply of 500 is budgeted for annually.

Salvage.

A sum of £2,243 was received from the salvage operations throughout the year.

The following is a comparative table showing tonnage and amounts received from the various items salvaged:—

				1950.			1949.		
				<i>Weight</i>			<i>Weight</i>		
				<i>T. C. Q.</i>			<i>T. C. Q.</i>		
				<i>£ s. d.</i>			<i>£ s. d.</i>		
Paper	...	...	...	203	5	0	270	10	1
Kitchen Waste	...	...	...	332	19	3	336	14	2
Bones	...	...	...	15	2		10	1	
Textiles	...	...	...	9	3	1	8	12	0
Metals (Non-Ferrous)	...	...	...	11	3		8	3	
Cast Iron	...	...	...	1	18	0	—		—
				548	13	1	616	15	3
				£2,243 9 6			£2836 10 8		

Rodent Control.

Investigation of complaints and the carrying out of treatments found necessary, as well as surveys of the district were carried out for the presence of rats, and action was taken where the rodents were found. At the present there is a fixed charge of 5/- per treatment for infestations at private dwelling houses. In the case of business premises the charge is on a "time and materials" basis.

During the year 41 separate treatments were carried out at premises and land within the district.

The whole of the sewerage system of the district was test baited in May, when ten per cent. of the man-holes on the main sewerage system were baited with sausage rusk. This test baiting revealed that infestation was present at 17 different points on the system. The recognised method of pre-baiting followed by poison baiting with zinc phosphide was carried out in the areas shown to be infested. A second maintenance treatment was carried out in the same areas in November, using bread mash as the bait and arsenic as the poison. The bait and poison were changed to prevent the rats becoming "poison conscious," for when this occurs treatment is ineffective.

Much research work is being carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries where new methods and poisons are being investigated. A close liaison is maintained with the Ministry through the No. 9 Workable Area Committee, comprising of the Boroughs of Preston and Chorley and Urban Districts of Leyland, Walton-le-Dale, Adlington, Withnell, Fulwood and Longridge, and the Rural Districts of Preston, Chorley and Garstang.

I am, Sir, Mrs. Kelley and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. CHEETHAM,

Sanitary Inspector.

Cleansing Superintendent.

LEYLAND URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

WATER SUPPLY, 1950.

Details of the water consumption during 1950 are as follows:—

	<i>For Year.</i>	<i>Average per day.</i>	<i>Average per head per day</i>
Domestic	187,407,000	513,444	35
Trade (Metered)	71,663,000	196,336	13
	259,070,000	709,780	48 galls.

The estimated population supplied for Domestic Purposes is 14,740.

The number of metered supplies is 318.

There are 3 domestic premises not supplied from the public mains.

The trade consumption shows an increase of 1,160,000 gallons from 1949, while the domestic consumption shows an increase of 16,987,000 gallons.

Low pressures continue to be experienced in the Bent Bridge area at times of peak draw.

It is intended to commence the new 18in. trunk supply main from the service reservoirs into the town in 1951.

A 3 inch main has been provided in Hugh Lane from Longmeanygate to Hugh House Farm—340 lin. yards.

A summary of maintenance work, to mains and fittings, carried out during the year is given below:—

Taps re-washed and inspected	748
Ball taps repaired and renewed	106
Repairs to stop taps and renewals	19
Hydrants renewed and repaired (including conversions) .	34
Burst mains repaired	18
Burst service pipes repaired	17
New services fixed	12
Meters fixed or changed for repairs	15

The distribution mains were flushed quarterly.

The reservoirs were cleaned out during holiday week.

There are no waste detection meters on the distribution mains. This question must receive consideration after the new 18 in. main is laid.

New bye-laws are under consideration.

Water Analysis.

This is carried out by the Council's Consultant Analysts, Messrs. Melling and Ardern of Manchester.

Seven Reports in respect of 17 samples taken for bacteriological examination have been received. In all cases except one, the tests for the presence of presumptive B. Coli proved negative and in the one case a further test taken six days later proved the supply satisfactory.

Seven samples revealed residual chlorine varying from 0.025 to 0.05 the average being 0.036 (expressed in p.p. million).

During the year, the total water taken from Thirlmere and the Boreholes was in the proportion of 7.8 parts Thirlmere to one part Borehole. The weekly average mix varied between one part Borehole and 3.18 parts Thirlmere to one part Borehole and 16.6 Thirlmere.

The pH value was determined in June and the result was 7.8.

Typical bacteriological and chemical analysis of the supply in the distribution mains are set out below:—

Bacteriological Analysis.

Samples taken.	6th April, 1950.	6th Nov., 1950.
B. Coli aerogenes.	Neg. in 100 C. C.	Neg in 1 C.C. (5 tubes) Neg in 10 C.C. (5 tubes) Neg. in 50 C.C. (5 tubes)
Probable No. per 100 C.C.	0	0

Chemical Analysis.

Samples taken 25th January, 1951 (None available in 1950).

								<i>Parts per 100,000</i>
Total solids in solution ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8.4
Total hardness ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.0
Temporary hardness ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4.0
Permanent hardness ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Combined chlorine ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.9
Toxic metals ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Ammoniacal nitrogen (Free and Saline ammonia) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Albuminoid nitrogen (Albuminoid ammonia) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.001
Nitrous nitrogen (Nitrites) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Nitric nitrogen (Nitrates) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.04
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hours at 26.7° C. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.057
pH ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7.1

F. D. HOWE, M.Inst.Mun.E.,

*Chartered Municipal Engineer,
Engineer and Surveyor.*

11th October, 1951.

1951

PRINTED BY HARRY THRELFALL
FIVE TOWNGATE,
LEYLAND